

TRIPURA



GAZETTE

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**PART--I-- Orders and Notifications by the Government of Tripura,
The High Court, Government Treasury etc.**

**Government of Tripura
Forest Department**

No.F.13(21)/Gen/Vanamahotsava-2019/9487-505

Dated, Agartala, 17th June, 2020

MEMORANDUM**Subject:** Celebration of Vanamahotsav, 2020.

In Tripura more than 60% area cover is under forest cover. However, rising demand for firewood, timber, fodder and other non-timber forest products has led to a unsustainable increase of biotic pressure on natural forests. A large section of people especially the poor derive their livelihood from forests. The Forest Department has been making all endeavors to alleviate poverty through tree planting and other income generation activities under various schemes.

2. For sustainable development and conservation of biodiversity, it becomes imperative to undertake tree plantation and other environmental conservation related activities outside the traditional forests as well. This may be achieved with active involvement of people, clubs, NGOs, paramilitary forces etc.. Vanamahotsav is celebrated every year at the start of the monsoon season to educate the masses on the role of trees in keeping the environment healthy. It also aims to promote love for trees among the people, popularizing planting of trees in farms, villages, urban areas and public land for their aesthetic value as well as for providing economic and other benefits to the masses particularly the rural poor.

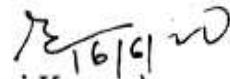
3. For success of Vanamahotsav-2020, the following actions may be taken:

- i. Like previous years, this year also, the Vanamahotsav will be celebrated at District, Sub-Division, Block, Nagar Panchayat levels and Government offices including all Paramilitary force establishments, while taking care of social distancing and other COVID related measures.

- ii. All government departments, PRI/nagar panchayat bodies, eco-clubs, central and state undertaking etc should take up ceremonial planting of trees in their respective premises involving staff, across the entire State followed by discussion on importance of trees/forests with the active participation of the staff in the month of June and July 2020.
- iii. Tree plantation may be taken up by the police through thanas, TSR units, etc. Similar action may be taken by Assam Rifles, BSF, CRPF, CISF and other armed force units.
- iv. Tall (3-4 ft height) and good quality planting materials will be supplied by the Forest Department free of cost from the nearest forest office along with technical assistance wherever necessary.
- v. The plant guards may be arranged by the organization themselves at their own cost. This is necessary to ensure the survival of the plants.
- vi. Wide publicity through print as well as electronic media will be taken up by Forest Department.

4. The secretaries of all departments are accordingly requested to issue necessary instructions to all concerned to observe Vanamahotsav and tree planting programme with the active involvement of all the employees as well as elected peoples' representatives, Panchayati Raj Institutions and other stakeholders in a befitting manner in consultation with District Forest Officers concerned for undertaking the plantation and spreading the message of environmental conservation.

5. All these activities have to be taken up after giving due care in regard to guidelines and austerity measures issued by the Government of Tripura in connection with COVID-19. The events should ensure adequate safeguards to contain the spread of COVID-19.


(Manoj Kumar)
Chief Secretary
Government of Tripura